6/19/76

Ms. Jane B. Wilson, Editor
Maryland Library Association
115 West Franklin St.,
Baltimore, Md. 21201

Dear Ms. Wilson,

Somehow the Bowker people made a typo and immediately the rural routes were renumbered. Without moving our correct address is Route 12.

We do only one book at a time so I have no galleys. I'll enclose flyers on my previous two books. We have had to adopt a policy of no freebees, having learned that with the subject on which I work and with the prejudice against what is called self-publishing (although as you know I'm a recognized publisher) they lead to no reviews. Moreover, without the review telling readers how to obtain the book it would mean nothing to us. Our comercial distribution is by us to bookstores. Generally my books receive major news attention but not reviews.

When we have a new book we make a mailing. To be effective we have learned that they have to lean toward the sensational in content, although there is no exaggeration in these flyers. The same mailing goes to individuals and bookstores. It is what launches each book.

The prejudice against responsible writing on political assassinations is dismaying. All the junk, the irresponsible, the irrationally conjectural and the plain fraud is publishable and is reviewed and deceives a large sector of the poeple. I had about 100 rejections for my first book, without an adverse literary or editorial criticism - often with predictions the book would be a best-seller - before I decided to print it myself. As the first "underground" book and as Dell reprint it was a best-seller. Dell rejected it three times before coming to me for it. This kind of history is what compelled me to become a publisher.

The actuality is that despite the time it takes to be a publisher and a distributor I have done the basic work in this field. In recent years, after I started dredging the literary quicksands in the National Archives, the form of my books changed. They are heavy with facsimile reproduction of formerly suppressed materials not uncommonly TOP SECRET, some more than half documentary. The reader does not have to rely on my word. If this makes for a thicker book, the reception is fantastic. Much of this comes from my use of the Freedom of Information Law. I have used it more than any other person and am largely responsible for the amending of that law. I have three current cases in court. They yield historically significant records and I reproduce them in the books.

About a year ago Henry Scarupa of the Baltimore Sun Sunday Magazine did a story on me. Atypically for a publisher, author and in this field I maintain a low profile because my major interest is in the work I do, perfecting the available record on these obfuscated turning points in our history. I have no objection to Henry's telling you anything he learned or believes. The simplest answer to your question about biographical information is that I have been a newspaper reporter, an investigative reporter, a Senate investigator and editor and an intelligence analyst. It is this background that makes it possible for me to have done the definitive work in this general subject.

We are, of course, anxious for libraries to know of these books and their availability.

Sincerely, Harold Weisberg

MARYLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

115 West Franklin Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201

June 15, 1976

Public Relations Officer
Harold Weisberg
Route 3,
Frederick, Md.

Dear Sir:

As the editor of the CRAB, the newsletter of the Maryland Library Association, I would like to begin a feature on new books by and about Marylanders and Maryland.

It would be very helpful to us to receive review copies or galley proofs of books which would be of interest to our readership and their clientele.

If a review is not desired, but a mention of the publication's existence is preferred, please send an announcement with complete bibliographic information and source.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Jane B. Wilson

Jane B. Wilson
Editor